

Fiscal Analysis: The proposal requires the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) to assist the Department of Corrections, sheriffs, and local and regional jails utilizing the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Veterans Re-Entry Search Services (VRSS) system to identify veterans incarcerated in state, local, and community correctional facilities. It requires DVS to coordinate justice, support, and reentry services for these veterans

Department of Planning and Budget
2025 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

and to prepare such veterans for release and reentry, reduce the rates of recidivism and homelessness among such veterans, provide such veterans with behavioral health resources to address the challenges of post-traumatic stress disorder, and refer eligible veterans to behavioral health dockets.

The Department of Veterans Services indicated that they would need one additional position for a Veteran Justice Specialist to implement this proposal and coordinate justice, support, and reentry services discussed above. The salary and benefit cost for the position is \$100,243 and \$13,499 in non-personnel costs, totaling \$113,742.

The bill also requires the agency to coordinate with the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, circuit courts, district courts, the Department of Criminal Justice Services, and other stakeholders as necessary.

The Department of Corrections indicated that the agency already utilizes the VRSS system and the impact of the proposal would be minimal. The impact on local and regional jails is unknown. The impact on the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs, the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, the Compensation Board, Courts, and the Department of Criminal Justice Services is expected to be minimal and absorbable.

Other: The General Assembly provided the position and funding for this proposal in the Conference Report. The Conference amendment number is Item 456 #1c.